

QUA~RAE

Here is news of Radio Association of Erie

VOL. II, No. 2

SERVING TRI-STATE AMATEURS FOR 25 YEARS

SEPTEMBER 1970

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NEXT RAE MEETING - September 3, 1970

DON'T FORGET THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS

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W. HOWARD MAC IVOR NAMED
HAM OF THE MONTH



This month's personality is W3AQY, W. Howard MacIvor. "Mac" resides at 909 East 37th Street. He is Senior Vice President at the First National Bank, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, and is active in many local organizations. When the Erie Amateur Radio Club was reorganized in 1945, Mac was one of the "guiding lights." When Dawson Bliley left a sizable cash donation, Mac was made one of the trustees of the fund, and has served in that capacity ever since. In addition to being one of the RAE trustees, he is a member of the board of directors of WQLN, Erie's educational station, where he

serves as assistant treasurer. Mac belongs to the Shriners and holds the post as a member of the Royal Order of Jesters. Like many hams, he lists among his hobbies that of Photography.

First licensed as W8AQY in 1931, he joined the ARRL. He has been a continuous member of the League ever since and now has some 40 years credited to him. Somehow he finds time to read QST, 73, CQ, and Ham Radio magazines.

Mac operates all bands 160m through 2m, but he says his favorite is 20 m. His main station receiver is a Drake R4A. For transmitting he uses a T4X followed, when necessary, by a Swan Mark I linear. Also in his shack is a Gonset G-28 (10m Gooney-Bird) and a Hallicrafters HT-30. He says the HT-30 is one of only about a hundred ever made. On the VHF bands Mac uses the Hallicrafters HA-6 and HA-2. The transverters have 10m input so Mac usually uses the G-28 or the HT-30 to drive them. The shack is equipped with a Model 19 teletype machine and a transistorized TU.

Beam antennas are used on all bands above 20m. On 2m, an 11 element yagi is used; on 6m, an 8 element yagi; and on 20m, 15m, and 10m a Mosley TA-33 is used. Mac also uses a trap dipole for 40m and 75m and he loads the coax to work 160m.

His mobile station is not quite so elaborate, though. He has only one rig in the car—a Drake TR-4. A Hustler antenna provides a good signal on all bands.

Mac occasionally joins ECARS and the Intercontinental nets, but his operation is usually just "hamming." One of his most memorable ham escapades was his cruise in the Bahamas as guest of K4CCR/MM, Dr. Robert Heape. While cruising along, Mac talked to several Erie hams and made a phone patch contact with K3ZGG, Wendel Good.

And, speaking of phone patches, Mac tells us that he was able to end a small feud with a neighbor by patching her to the South Pole for a direct hook-up with her son who was stationed there. Seems as though the neighbor can stand a little crosshatch on her TV now and then ever since the patch.

To you, Mac, W3AQY, best wishes and 73's. We are proud to have you as a member of the Radio Association Of Erie.

RAE Minutes

August 6, 1970

The meeting was called to order by acting president K3VLP at 8:15.

Acting officers present were K3VLP, WA3KAI, and WA3MAU. Directors present were WA3HDK, WA3GIV, W3SN, and W3KPM.

The minutes of the July 22 meeting were read and approved as corrected. There was no treasurer's report. A letter from Howard Haynes, W8UMS was read to the membership. A memo from Paul Hagan of Hagan Business Machines, concerning the donation of a manual typewriter to the RAE, was read and WA3HDK advised the secretary to send a thank-you note.

Under old business, the renewal of the Club's insurance policy was discussed. WA3HDK made a motion, seconded by W3KPJ, "that a committee be appointed to check on rates and coverage and renew the policy accordingly." The motion was carried and WA3HDK was to head the committee. WA3GIV gave a status report on the Directors meeting with attorney Wendell Good. Mr. Good advised that the Directors proceed as it has in the past and to hold their elections in September as the by-laws state. K3VLP said he would talk to WA3AWB concerning the activities chairmanship of the club. WA3HSR reported that the reorganization of the QUA-RAE staff had been completed, and the mailing list was near 210. K3VXE and W3ZLO reported that they hoped the repeater would be in operation soon. The Hamfest was discussed, and a committee was named as follows; Jim Smith, WA3JIS chairman; others included K3VLP, W3SN, WA3HSR, WA3HDK, K3VXE, and W3ZLO.

Under new business, WA3GIV reported the Civil Defense had donated a 2 M FM rig to the RAE for use in the COM Truck. W3KPM advised that he still had three(3) 41-V units available, however, RACES members would be given preference. WA3HSR reported that the QUA-RAE may be able to use the Red Cross addressograph machine and K3VLP said he would check into it. WA3GIV volunteered his services in making new plates for the machine.

The following bills were turned over to the treasurer:

- 1) Addressograph invoice # 134655 for \$9.06
- 2) Addressograph invoice # 135036 for \$14.97

A get well card was sent to Helen Trask, wife of Bud Trask (formerly W3VNC) in Orlando, Fla.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10. Present 18 members.

73s

Chuck, WA3KAI

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
AUG LEEN TRI-STATE 30	UST 31	SCHOOL ERASERS PENCILS TEACHERS 1	2	RAE MEETING 3	4	5
LEEN TRI-STATE 6	LABOR DAY  7	8	9	10	11	WAE TEST 4-LAND - WASH. QSO PARTY 12
SAME TESTS - NETS 13	14	RAE ELECTIONS 15	PARC 16	RAE MEETING 17	18	VE/W TEST 19
VE/W-NET XMTR HUNT 20	FALL 21	 22	— YL - 23	HOWDY 24	DAYS - 25	26
LEEN TRI-STATE 27	28	29	30	OCT RAE 1	2	3

RAE ACTIVITIES

This month of September will bring the long awaited elections. According to by-laws, election of the board of directors is to be held on the third Tuesday in September. All RAE members will be notified by post card as to details of the election and the meeting place.

The transmitter hunts will resume their normal schedule in September and possibly a 2M FM hidden transmitter will take part.

Announcement is hereby made of the 2nd annual Worked Most Locals contest. The contest period will run from 0000 GMT Sept. 12, and continue through 2359 Sept. 27. All cards must be received by the RAE by October 2, 1970. Categories will include Novice, above 50 MHz, below 50 MHz, and outside Erie County entry. Award presentations will be made at the Hamfest on October 10.

The annual RAE Hamfest will be held on Saturday, October 10 at the Jura Coya restaurant on the Peninsula. Grand prize will be a SWAN Cygnet 270 xcvr. Tickets will soon be available and those attending will also be eligible for other door prizes. A full program is being planned and it is sure to be a huge success. We will have further details in the October QUA-RAE and at the meetings. Hope to see all of you there.

FROM THE BOARD

Section 7501 of Pennsylvania's non-profit corporation law states:

"The business and affairs of every non-profit corporation shall be managed by a board of at least three directors, who shall be natural persons in full age, and who need not be residents of this Commonwealth or members in the corporation unless the articles or by-laws so require..."

Obviously, this means that the Radio Association of Erie, or any other club so incorporated in this state, must operate with directors. Unincorporated clubs are not so-restricted and thus can be more democratic within themselves. The advantages and disadvantages of an incorporated club are discussed in an ARRL booklet entitled YOUR RADIO CLUB. Only about 10 percent of ARRL affiliated clubs are incorporated, and there are no known cases where incorporation has "saved the day" against legal action against the club or an individual in the club.

One committee mentioned in this booklet doesn't recommend incorporation by a club unless property in excess of \$1000 is involved. Perhaps this was the reason behind the incorporation of the RAE.

HAMS ON THE MOVE

This month's featured ham is Robbie Weaver Jr., formerly K3VBL, son of Rob senior and his XYL, Irene. Most of us remember that Robbie was stationed at Denver a few years ago, but since then he has strayed over to Andersen AFB in Guam and now spends his time in Rapid City, S.D. While in Guam, he made many locals happy with their first WG6 QSO and helped many of the boys in Guam talk to their families through ham radio. His dad even bought a Swan 350 so they could keep a regular schedule. He felt it was cheaper than the long-distance phone calls (HI HI).

The following is copied from the BLACK HILL SENTINEL :

"A1C Robert L. Weaver has been selected airman of-the-month for the 821st Strategic Aerospace Division (SAD) for the month of April. He was presented with a certificate of achievement by Col. Charles J. Adams, Commander of the 821st. Airman Weaver, 28th Avionics Maintenance Squadron, is assigned to duties as a bomb navigation mechanic. He was nominated for the award for his contributions and efforts to morale while assigned to the Arc Light at Andersen AFB, Guam. During this time, in addition to performing his normal duties in an outstanding manner, he also spent most of his off-duty time operating the Amateur short-wave station placing numerous phone patches for all personnel to their families back home. Airman Weaver also helped the Communications Squadron with several repairs to the radio equipment, including the installation of a new antenna just prior to the holiday season.

"According to Col. Richard L. Lawson, 28th Bombardment Wing Commander, 'Through his exceptional help, unselfishness, and experience, many personnel were made happier by being able to talk to their loved ones. Airman Weaver was definitely instrumental in making this temporary duty assignment a successful and pleasant one for all personnel attached to the Wing in Guam.' To go along with the certificates, many base and civilian organizations presented gifts to the men."

HAMS ON THE MOVE(cont.)

We are all looking forward to having an eyeball QSO with Rob on his next leave. He may be sent to Thailand and the RAE may act as QSL manager. We of the Tri-state area salute AIC Robert L. Weaver Jr. and wish him continued success in his service to his country and his fellow man.

Next month another ham who has left the area will be featured. If there is anyone you would like to read about send the information to the QUA-RAE and we will do our best to dig up a little about them.

WARREN, OHIO HAMFEST

Congratulations to the Warren Amateur Radio Association on what must certainly have been one of the country's top ham activities. George, K3VIP; Don W3HIM and his friend Ed (who is working hard trying to get his code speed up for the novice test) attended the affair along with an estimated 3000 other persons. While on Rt. 5 in Ohio Don was not sure where to turn. They did, however, find the talk-in station WE Very Tired Dog on 75.33B. K3VIP offered to get out and install the bandmaster antenna, but Don was flying too fast and couldn't get landing clearance. He took a chance and loaded up his T-90 on AM and was recognized by the WARA gang. If you are among those who bow to the SWR meter, don't try loading a 10 M whip on 75.

Upon arrival we parked in a wide-spaced lot where you didn't have to worry about dents and scrapes. A new set of bleachers had been constructed at the fair grounds and they were enclosed at the base. This is where the paying displayers had set up next to the registration tables and food counter. About 200 cars, trucks, and station wagons were lined up in the flea market. Prices there made 'Sky High' seem like a discount store. They were asking 325 for 3B-100s less P/3, 125 for an Apache 3B-10 combination, 350 for SWAN 250s and 350s. Much FM gear was evident, and the cheapest 2 M FM gear was over 100 with many parts missing. A Youngstown firm gave away 25 prizes to hams only, and the WARA gave away prizes from the registration tickets. Top prize was a Drake TR-4, AC supply and speaker; next was a Varitronics FDFM-2VHF Transceiver; a HY-GATE tri-band quad with a CDE TR-44 rotor; and finally a Drake W-4 wattmeter. Other area hams seen were W8BKL, W8DLN, K3AER, K3VIQ and others.

About the only fault mentioned was with the PA system which was supposed to have been installed by another ham. Both systems kept blowing fuses. The prize for the ham coming the farthest went to a W6, the oldest active ham was 81, and the youngest had just turned 14. The Trumbull County Sheriff's Dept. did a swell job of getting cars in and out of the parking lots. The trip from Erie was shortened by about 1 hour because of the site change to the fair grounds. Again to WARA and W8VTD a hearty congratulations on a job well done. You weren't the only "Very Tired Dogs" at the end of the day.

The QUA-RAE staff wishes to thank Fred Tate, WA3GIV for making the addressor plates for mailing. Thanks also to Bob Bair, WA3HDK who figured out how to run the clubs multilith machine for printing up the newspaper. Have you noticed the new look?

PROPAGATION FORCAST (condensed from CQ Magazine)

With the arrival of September all hams look forward to better band conditions. Even though the sunspot cycle is on the decline, this year should provide good openings on all of the bands. An increasing number of DX openings during daylight hours are expected during September on 10, 15, and 20 meters. Better DX during evening hours can be expected on 40, 80, and 160 meters with lower static levels likely. The trend should continue into October with good skip into all areas of the world on 10-40 meters. Fewer openings will occur on 80 and 160.

TE scatter (Trans-equatorial) openings on 6 meters to South America should occur during most nights of the month to most areas of the country. Optimum time for TE openings is between 8 and 11 PM local time. Some F-layer openings to Central and South America between noon and sunset are possible with increased occurrence after mid-month. Also expect the decline of sporadic-E to continue for part of the month.

So get those beams and quads warmed up and be ready to roll when the bands split wide open. We still have two or three more seasons left according to the experts.

PARC MEETING

In an effort to keep all amateurs in the Tri-State area informed of all the events, the QUA-RAE plans exclusive coverage of other amateur radio club meetings throughout the county. If you would like to read about your club, send your information to the QUA-RAE address.

The Presque Isle Amateur Radio Club held their August meeting at the Gen-Tel headquarters on 10th St. Featured at the meeting was a lecture and a demonstration of the mobile telephone system used in the Erie area. Also included was a brief talk on the principle of closed-circuit TV and a demonstration of the video-tape recorder. About 45-50 people attended the event and refreshments were served after the meeting.

AUGUST TRANSMITTER HUNT

The August transmitter hunt occurred Sunday, the 23rd. A joint hunt for 6 and 10 meters was planned, but the hidden location leaked out on 6 and an alternate site had to be chosen. K3VLP, the hidden transmitter on 10, was expecting at least two mobiles, but only WA3HSR/M showed. Mike and his navigator Dave, WA3COS, spent an hour and one-quarter tank of gas to find the location. Starting on the west side of town, they worked their way from past the airport, through town, and finally out to the QTH of Bob Bair, WA3HDK, where the transmitter was hidden.

The 6 meter hunt, also to be hidden there, was at the last minute hidden at the GE park off East Lake Road. Some of the mobiles were hesitant to proceed past the PRIVATE PROPERTY sign at the entrance, but they gradually made their way to the site. The turnout there was much better with K3QAY (first on the scene), W3ALD, WA3ISN, WA3JIS, and WA3MKA. Next month's hunt will be on the 20th. Let's try and get a better turnout on both bands!

TECH TALK

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF A REPEATER, Part One

Many inquiries have come to the QUA-RAE staff and the VHF Repeater Group Members asking how a repeater operates.

A repeater is nothing more than a well-located, sensitive receiver and a transmitter, tuned to different frequencies so they can operate simultaneously. Before I explain just how it works, let's first explore its usefulness.

Station A wishes to operate with station B. These two stations could be fixed, located in the main shack at home, or mobile, or even hand-held walkie-talkies. The problems of communication between these two stations on 2 meters can vary, depending on location, antenna, and power. Now, let's take the worst case.

Both stations are walkie-talkies on the opposite ends of town. These units normally put out between 1 and 2 watts, and the receivers are sensitive down to 0.3 microvolts. The chances of communication between these two units would then depend upon the number of obstacles within the line-of-sight path between the two whip antennas of the units. One could readily see that communication would be difficult over any obstructed terrain. However, if a third station could easily receive both stations, and could relay one's transmission to the other with a higher powered transmitter, then communication using these low powered units could be effective. The same could be applied to poorly located or distant fixed stations as well as mobiles.

This relay station is called a repeater. A signal is received by it on one frequency, and the output of this receiver is fed into the transmitter, which is located on a different frequency. If the incoming signal is copyable at the repeater, its range is then increased to that of the repeater transmitter. Thus, with the repeater in operation, 2 meters is no longer a mountaintop man's paradise with a 42 element yagi. Effective long-distance communication can be accomplished with one repeater, and even longer distances can be covered with a network of repeaters, each tied into the other by use of the proper frequencies.

NEXT MONTH: Repeater problems and the use of tones

DE K3VXE, Ron

QRP? IS LOW POWER FOR YOU?

Low power depends upon you as an individual ham. For some of you, it is definitely no good. I, along with many others, prefer running low power for a variety of reasons. One is the satisfaction of receiving a 599 report from a guy in Oklahoma or anywhere else with 50 watts or less. With 500 watts or more, you know you won't have any trouble giving him a shout. I know I'll have to work a little harder for the QSO. I enjoy the added challenge. You can do just as well with low power as a guy running a gallon. All you need is a little bit of fortitude and patience. Good band conditions and a good antenna system also help. For me, the challenge and satisfaction makes the trouble worthwhile. In my book, it is more fun and more in the spirit of things to accomplish a lot with a little. Whether you're running 5 watts or a gallon, I'll catch you on the band.

73, DE WA3MKA, Karl

SSB (SALE, SWAP, OR BUY)

FOR SALE:	EICO 720--90 watt CW transmitter)	
	EICO 730 AM Modulator)	Dave Miller, WA3COS
	80-10 meter VFO)	PHI-KAPPA-THETA Fraternity
	Low Pass Filter)	Carnegie-Mellon University
	100 feet of RG-58/U)	Pittsburgh, PA 15213
	80, 40, 15 meter Novice xtals)	

HQ-100 in good condx, \$75)	Bob Hooper, WN3OOM
	1033 West 35 Street
	Erie, PA 16508
	Phone 866-6516 after 3 p.m.

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE TO AMATEURS

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., a non-profit organization, with its headquarters in Washington, D. C., announces its intent to make the annual award of the John Gore Memorial Scholarship for either graduate or under graduate study. The scholarship pays \$500 for the academic year. Upon re-application, it is subject to being renewed for succeeding years.

Licensed radio amateurs who intend making a career in electronics or related sciences may now request the application form covering the academic year 1970-1971. Requests should be addressed to the Chairman, Scholarship Committee, 8101 Hamden Lane, Bethesda Maryland 20014. The award will be made during the month of December, 1970. Receipt of applications for the award must be received prior to the close of business on the 31st of October, 1970.

To be eligible for the award, applicants must have completed at least one year in an accredited college or university and must be enrolled in a course of studies leading to a degree. They must also be radio amateurs holding a valid FCC license of at least a General class level. All things being substantially equal, preference will be shown to applicants from the area served by the foundation--the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Northern Virginia; however, applicants wherever resident are eligible.

The Foundation is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of amateur radio and to those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that serve to advance the purpose of amateur radio.

As a service to those amateurs interested in applying for the John Gore Scholarship, the QUA-RAE prints this article in time for you to receive and mail your applications in ample time. If any of our readers do apply, we would appreciate knowing of your progress. For further information write to:

The Foundation for Amateur Radio
Suite 72
1150 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, DC 20036

STRAYS

- WA3EYM Bruce Bernard spent the summer studying law-enforcement at Case-Western Reserve in Cleveland.
- WA3COS Thanks to a QUA-RAE SSB ad, Dave now boasts a Thunderbird tri-band beam and rotor formerly belonging to WA3EYM.
- WA3HRH Doug— How many times did you call that 9Q5 on 20 CW?
- WN3OOM Bob Hooper sports a 40 meter dipole with SWR of 1:1 since K3VXE suggested adding 2 feet to each side. Now he is ready for Novice Band DXing.
- W8JIS Gene spent part of his vacation taking a carload of young people to Wiona Lake, Indiana.
- WA3JIS Jim's the luckiest man in town. He drove from Syracuse to Erie in three and a half hours only to have his brakes fail in his driveway.
- W3VHP Doc's got an assistant now. He's moved the shack into the house so he can spend more time on the air conditioning.
- W8CR ex-W8ISH Eli is looking for that overweight bird that tilted his tri-bander.
- K3FVO Bob moved to Columbus, Pa., but still gets into Erie on 6 meters.
- WA3HSR Who was with Mike drilling on the roof at midnight attempting to install a tri-bander?
- WA3ISN Does Rick's car really have an armrest? Why doesn't he tell us how he really hurt his back?!
- K3TUP John will be NCS next month on 10 meter LEEN.
- W3KVB, W3BBO, and W3QVS are some more locals who work at Zurn's.
- WA3JIT Steve added a third element to his beam. Look out DX!
- K3PAJ Frank has been working seven days a week for so long, he may need some help making those deposits.
- WA3MAU Joe is proudly sporting that new General call.
- K3VXE Ron is still trying to figure out that A4L he worked by backscatter on 20 CW. Some new call in India??

LAST MINUTE SSB

FOR SALE: Lafayette KT-320; JT-30 microphone; SWR bridge ———

call Doug Sipple, WA3HRH—866-7346

DON'T FORGET WORKED MOST LOCALS CONTEST THIS MONTH. WOULDN'T YOU LIKE THAT AWARD?

ARRL OFFICIAL BULLETINS

ARRL OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 282--July 23, 1970

All amateurs are invited to participate in the ARRL September Frequency Measuring Test, September 12. This FMT will be open to all amateurs and results will be tabulated in QST with average accuracy comparisons. Remember that the September 12 GMT date falls on the evening of Friday, September 11 for most participants. Full information on this new FMT appears on page 68 of the August issue of QST.

ARRL OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 283--July 30, 1970

New fees adopted by FCC on July 1 apply to applications on or after August 1, 1970. New, upgraded, or renewed, or modified and renewed amateur licenses are now nine dollars. Four dollars is charged for straight modification such as change of station location. Special call signs under section 97.51 requires an additional twenty five dollars. No fee for any Novice military recreation station or Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service authorization. August QST carries a brief announcement with the details in the September issue. Meanwhile, ARRL, continuing its fight against fees, is preparing a formal request for reconsideration.

ARRL OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 284--August 6, 1970

The thirteenth Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air will be held from 0001 GMT October 17 through 2359 GMT October 18, 1970. Several special stations will be on the air for the occasion, including HB9S at Geneva, home of the World Scout Bureau, and K2BFW, headquarters station of the Boys Life Radio Club. A fraternal get-together rather than a contest, it provides an opportunity for scout to scout chats and for amateurs to demonstrate ham radio to scouts. For help in location a scout unit near you try the local Scout office listed in your phone book or write ARRL. Further details will appear in September QST.

ARRL OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 285--August 13, 1970

The ARRL Intruder Watch is now into its sixth year of operation, with an impressive record of reports leading to intruders being removed from the amateur bands. Additional work and constant vigilance are necessary. Volunteers, with two or three years amateur experience and good receiving equipment, who can spend two hours a week logging the calls of non amateur stations in the amateur bands would be welcomed. Volunteers please write the Intruder Watch, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, Connecticut 06111.

ARRL OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 286--August 20, 1970

The new edition of the ARRL Net Directory is now ready for distribution, earlier than in recent years. This useful operating aid tabulates net listings by frequency, net name and state. An addressed legal size envelope with twelve cents postage will bring your net directory to you. When requesting, please mention the call and frequency of the station transmitting this bulletin.

NEXT RAE MEETING--THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1970 AT RED CROSS BUILDING. 8:00 P. M.
RAE ELECTIONS--TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1970--LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED BY POSTAL
CARD TO ALL MEMBERS.

NOTICE

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE FOR ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL TAKE PLACE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1970 IN THE MEETING ROOM OF ST. GEORGE CHURCH, 5145 PEACH STREET. THIS ROOM CAN HOLD OVER 100 PEOPLE COMFORTABLY, AND THERE IS ADEQUATE PARKING. A QUORUM MUST BE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING FOR THE ELECTION TO TAKE PLACE AT THIS TIME. ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.

AS AN ADDED ATTRACTION TO THIS MEETING, WACFFL, WOLFGANG BUDDE, WILL EXPLAIN AND DEMONSTRATE THE OPERATION OF RADIO CONTROLLED AIRPLANES. THIS IS A VERY INTERESTING PROGRAM THAT EVERYBODY WILL ENJOY.

This summer has been a hectic one for local hams--especially the political science majors and the part-time lawyers. However, I hope no one loses sight of the fact that Amateur Radio is a hobby, and not a full-time profession or obsession. One thing amateurs have been noted for is their sense of humor, and I hope no one has lost theirs within the hullabaloo which began with the DXpedition and ended with the formation of the Presque Isle Radio Club. If PARC can benefit its members in a way the RAE cannot, it will undoubtedly be an asset to the amateur radio community. However, if its design is to be a carbon copy of an existing organization bent on partitioning the ham community into two opposing factions, then the fate of Amateur Radio in the community may very well be in their hands. I sincerely hope a spirit of cooperation will exist that will benefit the entire amateur community.

A Civil Defense-Civil Air Patrol exercise is scheduled for Saturday, September 12, between Erie and Corry. If the 2 meter repeater is in operation by that time as we hope it will, a new horizon of communication will be seen that will keep the Citizens Band from taking over this drill. The CAP is willing to go along with 2-meter FM if it works. If amateur communications cannot be effective between Erie and Corry, the next drill will use Citizens Band communications between Meadville and Erie. For more information, contact Tom Schwab, WA3KPM. He can be reached at the Civil Defense office at City Hall.

73 ^{AR} ^{DE} K3VXE ^{SK} ..

THE HISTORY OF THE YMCA RADIO CLASS

In the spring of 1951 the Erie County Civil Defense asked the help of the Radio Association of Erie in training amateur radio operators for the CD. John Kazak, W3NXX contacted the late Kenny Koons of the Erie YMCA and together they set up the first of a long series of YMCA radio classes. John Kozak was the instructor in charge of the first YMCA radio class. He was assisted by Ed Gubish, W3POS and Bart Geer, W3KNQ.

In the years since the first class became history, there have been many different instructors from the RAE giving both code and theory instruction. Others who have taught this class through the years are: Scotty Forbes, W3STK who was the first in charge for several years and whose code equipment is still being used; Kenny Lloyd, W3QN; Clarence Moser, W3RLJ; Bill Hutchison, W3NGB; Bill Watson, K3DDX; Bing Hahn, WA3AWB; Jim Rose, WA3FFD; Bob Bair, WA3HDK; Dave Ore, WN3LOW; Ron Leemhuis, WA3AWJ; Frank Bogacki, K3QJE; Jim Kearney, K3HWR; Fred Seroka, K3EIU; Tom Schwab, W3KPM; and Bob Arndt, K3KKF. These and many more club members have helped make this club project a continuing success for the past 19 years.

Generally, the classes have started with about 25 students of whom about 10 are still practicing after the thirteenth session. Of these, about five or six get licenses during or shortly after the sessions run their course. Many of the others pick up theirs later on.

The YMCA's good name and central location have made it easier for the "young-fry" to get out at night and attend these classes. Through the years, there have been students ranging in age from 4 years up to 69 years. Teenagers are the most numerous and most successful age group. One mother was attending the classes to help her son. As it wound up, she got the license and her son dropped out. There have been two blind students, both of whom succeeded in passing their code and theory tests.

Geographically speaking, there have been students from as far east as Bemis Point, New York, west to Conneaut, Ohio and south to Union City.

To be successful in qualifying for an amateur license, one must have time and determination. Generally, the most interested students will find the time. Even though a good educational background makes the learning easier, there have been those who have passed that never graduated from high school.

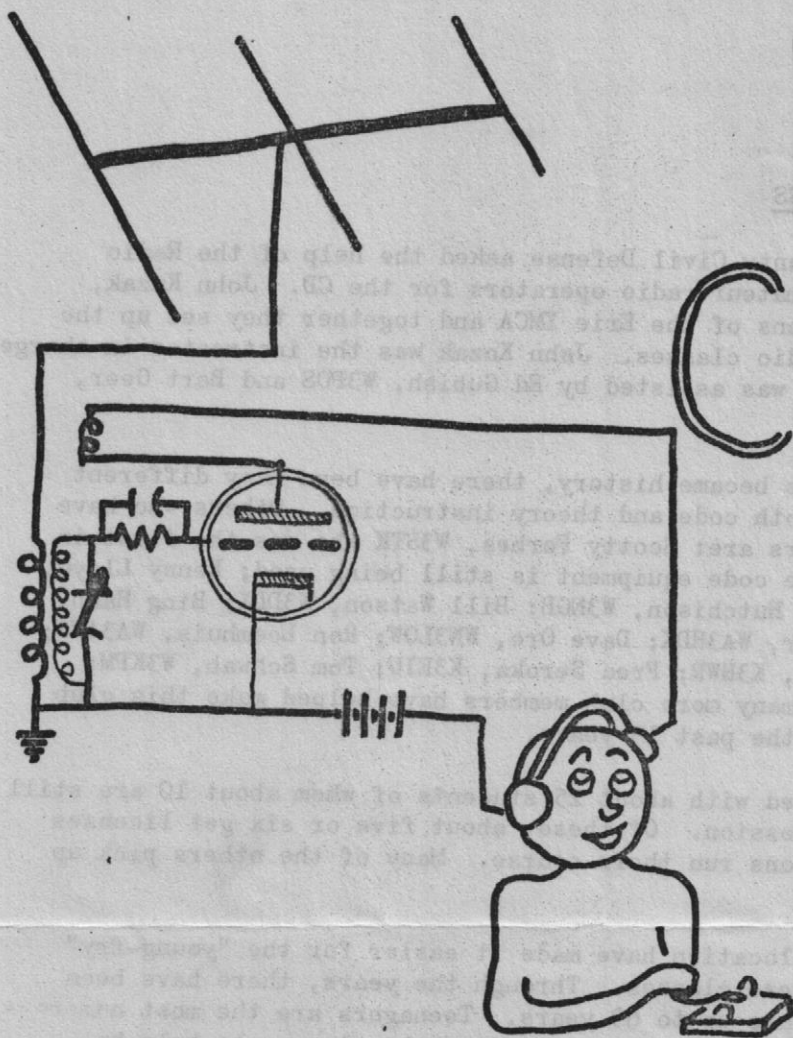
During the years this class has been offered, students have had to take time off from their jobs, give up a night of TV and miss that important date, but they managed to keep coming and make the grade. It is safe to say that anyone who has an amateur license, will find it in himself to get it. The YMCA code and theory classes were established, and continue to stand for, help offered by one ham to a need. The YMCA classes and those who have given their time and help for a job well done, and receive wishes for continued success in the future.

LET'S KEEP THESE CLASSES GOING -- PASS THE WORD

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